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INFORMATION REPORT CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Korea

SUBJECT Naval and Other Activities in the Unggi Area

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1. The port of Sosura (130-35, 42-15) has been a Soviet military base since the end of the war. When the Soviet forces withdrew from North Korea, some thirty thousand men were left at Sosura, which was used as a clearance and forwarding base. About half the number were still there in January 1950. The North Korean government had, in March 1949, ordered the removal of about two hundred families from the town to Kapsan (128-18, 41-06) in order to leave Sosura free for Soviet use.
2. The Soviets began constructing military installations at Sosura on 10 February 1950. Industrial machinery from all over North Korea is stored there, and this was made available for use. Military materials were imported from the USSR. Persons living near Chongjin (129-49, 41-46) observed that there was almost daily travel between Sosura and Vladivostok and that several hundred Korean engineers who had been in the USSR are working in Sosura. The area is closed to Korean civilian traffic, and the coasts are patrolled by Soviet guard vessels.
3. Fifteen kilometers away at the port of Unggi (130-20, 42-20), two Soviet warships are anchored, with about ten small, fast craft. Soviet naval construction in the area has resulted in restriction of the Daian-dong district as well as Sosura. Korean military forces were transferred out of the area in October 1949, the entire Marine Constabulary unit to Chongjin (129-49, 41-46) and Songjin (129-12, 40-40); the People's Army to Nampo (129-41, 41-42), Wonsan (127-26, 39-10), and Hamhung (127-32, 39-54). On 20 May 1950 there were no People's Army nor Marine Constabulary personnel in Unggi except for a small and inconspicuous unit of police of the Bureau of State Security.
4. Soviet navy personnel are seen regularly in the street of Unggi in groups of three and four, and several Soviet planes fly over the city daily.
5. With the heavy traffic in the area, the third class highway between Unggi and Najin (130-15, 42-10), which has a dirt surface and wooden bridges, became so bad that it was hardly passable in bad weather. Since it was inade-

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quate for the number of vehicles using it, the North Korean government drew up plans to widen the road and build reinforced concrete bridges. Although the plans were prepared considerably earlier, construction did not begin until 15 May. The width of the old road is to be doubled.

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